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1. CASE NO. 951024CCC2129	<b>29</b>		2. INVESTIGATOR'S ID [8][1][5][8]		3. OFFICE CODE [8][3][0]		DEMIOL	OGIC INVEST	rigation .
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20. ATTACHMENTS		1	SOURCE NEW	SPAPER	1	D BY		YR MO	
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#### IDI# 951024CCC2129 UTILITY LIGHTER/ BED SHEET

#### PRE-ACCIDENT:

Two young boys, 3 and 4 years old, set a bed sheet on fire with a disposable butane utility lighter in the basement of the home. The mother was upstairs at the time, no injuries occurred, however, the home sustained \$70,000 in damages.

The investigation was initiated from a newspaper clipping and request from FOCR. Attempts to contact the family failed by telephone, even though many messages were left on the owner's answering machine. A letter was sent to the family concerning the need to contact them about the fire, but the consumers never responded to the letter. All information in the report was received from the fire department personnel. A copy of the fire report was obtained, and it is attached.

The battalion chief said the mother explained the two sons found the utility lighter in a drawer. The lighter was used by the grandfather to light the fireplace and barbecue grill. The device had a long barrel that was red-tipped while the main body was brown in color. The mother did not know when or where the lighter had been purchased.

The mother, father, and two sons were living in the basement of the grandfather's home. Two bed sheets had been hung up to partition off the living room/play area from the sleeping area. There was a small easy chair on the living room side of the sheets and a double-bed adjacent the sheet on the bedroom side.

The fire chief said the walls of the basement was a wood paneling, and other wooden main beams had been varnished, which added to the fire spreading throughout the entire basement very fast.

#### ACCIDENT:

After talking to the boys, the chief determined the boys had found the utility lighter and crept downstairs without their mother knowing it. They were unattended maybe five to ten minutes. They used the lighter to set the hanging sheets on fire. The sheets fell down between the chair and bed, catching them on fire. No injury occurred, but the home was badly damaged.

#### POST-ACCIDENT:

The boys ran upstairs, dropping the lighter on the floor near a water-bed. The four year old told his mother there was a fire in the basement. The mother went down to the stairwell and looked into the basement. She saw fire in the small chair and bed at that time. She call the fire department and took the boys outside the house.

#### IDI# 951024CCC2129 UTILITY LIGHTER/ BED SHRET

The fire department arrived, and found the basement fully engulfed. The basement was a total loss at \$50,000 to the structure, and about \$20,000 to the contents.

The fire chief listed the fire as accidental, children

playing with a utility lighter.

\*The fire chief did send the fire report, but stated it should not distributed from the Kansas City CPSC Office without a subpena. The distribution of this report should therefore be handled differently than normal reports received by this office.

#### PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION:

The fire chief said the lighter was a "Bic" utility lighter which was brown in color with a red tip. The lighter had a long barrel with a trigger to pull to produce a flame. There were no known labeling for the lighter which was butane fueled and disposable. The lighter was destroyed in the fire. It is not known if this manufacturer of cigarette lighters makes such a utility lighter.

The manufacturer: Bic Corp., 500 Bic Drive, Milford, CT. 06460. Telephone: (203)281-78877.

#### STANDARDS:

CPSC has no current standard addressing the child-resistance of utility disposable butane lighters. Labeling of the lighter is not known because the lighter was destroyed in the fire. No other information about the lighter was obtained.

#### EXHIBITS:

- 1. Request for investigation/news clipping
- 2. Fax to fire department for report
- 3. Fire report

# 95/024/CC 2129 Fred 11/3 PSW 19184

IDI ASSIGNMENT TRACKING SHEET 449 EXHIBIT# 1 Request

. ASSIGNMENT * 95/02/CCC 2129 2. INVEST. 7158 3. SUP. 7007
. DATE ASGD 118/15 5. TARGET 12/11/55 6. UPDATE
1. ASGN TYPE 08 8. MIS JJ758 9. ACTIVITIES
10. NAME Williams 11. LOCATION OMAKA NE
2. PRODUCT <u>Cigorette 1513.</u> DOC # 6540058
14. HIA REF SECTIS 15. STATUS 16. LAST REV _(GENERATED)_
17. REGION <u>C</u>
16. DATE COMPLETED 19. TIME 20 TRAVEL
21. REMARKS
ADDITIONAL REMARKS AND DIRECTIONS (NOT IN COMPUTER RECORD)
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of the eigenette lighter that mattress
are available. Other wise conduct
Via phone.
1.1 in the sea 2 nd and furt using
Lover mattress as 2nd product using "Investigation bride lives" for "Mattress Fixes"
to extent possible. Be sure + complete
a "Mattress Fire" Data Sheet
Prod ident lingo for lighters + nothress ore
critical Contact officials, occupants, + Ins. Co.
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as deeded Hor oppropriate.

· LBW

#### ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REQUEST FORM

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 65400584

DATE OF INCIDENT: 10/4/95

CATID: CARMO7 1996

FOLLOW-UP REQUESTED

HAZARD ANALYSIS ( ) CRM ( )

TYPE FOLLOW-UP

TELEPHONE ( ) ON-SITE (X)

HEADQUARTERS CONTACT:

Michael Bogumill 504-0400 x1368

Backup: Bob Poth 504-0400 x1375

ASSIGNMENT MESSAGE: For any child playing with fire involving a cigarette lighter. Determine the model and manufacturer's name, type of lighter (refillable/disposable and fluid/butane), operating mechanism, age of child who operated the lighter, and accident scenario. Describe operating mechanism in detail and collect lighter, if possible.

The new regulation requiring disposable butane lighters and all novelty lighters to be child-resistant went into effect in July 1994.

Person(s) to Contact:

See Attroped

Guidelines: Appendix 45

Task Number: 95/014/CCC2/Date:

Assigned to: (#10

2 Date: 10/24/45

Requested by: Bugunzill.

CPSC Form 324A (10/95)

OCT 2分195

G 5 A0058



Morning World-Herald Omaha, NE Cir. D. 131,491

OCT - 5 1995

Universal Press Clipping Bureau

th Lighter Are Blamed for Fire

Two toddlers playing with a lighter Bosiljevac 324 325 Bosiljevac said. started a fire Wednesday afternoon that caused \$70,000 damage to a house at The two children ran upstairs to tell their mother, \$25, about the fire.

The two children, 3-year-old and his 4-year-old brother, said. The fire was contained in about 25 were in the basement playing minutes, he said.

Shortly after 3 p.m. when the fire started. The owner of the house is a mattress, said Battalion Chief Bob Ms. Ms. Tather-in-law. in a mattress, said Battalion Chief Bol

mother, mother and family pets made it outside unharmed, Bosiljevac

9510240002129

344

951024ccc 2129

CRITERIA AND RATIONALES -- INVESTIGATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1996

#### C. FIRE AND THERMAL BURNS

#### 6. CIGARETTE LIGHTERS

**CATEGORY ID: CARMO7** 

Appropriate guideline: As indicated in assignment. See also, Disposable & Novelty Cigarette Lighters 16 CFR 1210, July 12, 1994.

Analyst: Mike Bogumill (tel: 301-504-0400x1368)
Back-up contact: Robert Poth (tel: 301-504-0400x1375)

#### a.) Criteria for Assigning Non-NEISS Investigations

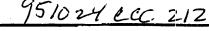
Assign all incidents of household fires involving deaths, injuries, or property damage which are reported to be associated with children under the age of 5 years playing with cigarette lighters.

#### b.) Rationale for Obtaining Investigations

Investigations will help the Commission's effort to measure the effectiveness of the child-resistance requirements of the mandatory standard for disposable and novelty cigarette lighters.

Time spent on these investigations would be charged to MIS Project 33758.

004





### INVESTIGATION GUIDELINE

Revised September 1994

#### Mattress/Bedding Fires

Complete attached data record sheet and include with the Epidemiologic Investigation Report. Also provide a copy of the Fire Incident Report. and any other pertinent reports.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background Information

Mattress fires were of sufficient concern in the early 1970s to justify the issuance of a mandatory standard intended to address cigarette ignition (Title 16 CFR 1632). Still, as recently as 1991, there remained about 280 lives lost in such fires. Another 200 fire deaths were associated with open-flame ignition of mattresses. In response to these fire losses, a CPSC project has been established to determine why the cigarette ignition fire death toll remains high and to investigate the feasibility of a standard for open flame ignition of mattresses/bedding.

A special field fire study will be conducted in FY 1995, involving the in-depth investigation of about 200-300 mattress/bedding fire incidents. Specific questions to be answered by this study include:

- What are the major ignition sources in mattress/bedding fires, and what are the hazard scenarios involved?
- In what types of mattress constructions are the fires occurring? Were these mattresses manufactured before or after the Standard went into effect?
- What is the role of bedding in these fires? Do these items actively contribute to the ignition of the mattress, and if so, to what extent?

## facsimile TRANSMITTAL

to:

FIRE INVESTIGATOR ADOLPH

fax #:

009

re:

OCT 4th,'95 FIRE ATM

date:

December 14, 1995

pages: ONE page(s) total, including this cover sheet

TO: CHIEF NAPRAVNIK, ARSON INVESTIGATION, OMAHA FIRE DEPT.

I AM REQUESTING A COPY OF THE ABOVE FIRE REPORT TO CONCLUDE OUR INVESTIGATION CONCERNING TWO SMALL (UNDER 5) CHILDREN PLAYING WITH A CIGARETTE LIGHTER AND CATCHING A MATTRESS ON FIRE. IN A HELPFUL DISCUSSION WITH INVESTIGATOR ADOLPH ABOUT THE INCIDENT, IT APPEARS A CONVENTIONAL LIGHTER WAS NOT INVOLVED, BUT AN UTILITY LIGHTER WAS USED BY THE POYS. IF WE MIGHT GET A FAXED COPY OF THE REPORT, IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. I HAVE NOT HAD ANY LUCK CONTACTING THE FAMILY.

THANKS.

From the desk of...

ROBERT B. WADSWORTH JR. INVESTIGATOR US CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY 601 E. 12TH, FED. BLDG. RM# 110 KANSAS CITY, MO. 64106

> tel: (816)426-2442 fax: (816)426-2444

EXHIBIT# 3 FIRE REPORT IDI# 951024CCC2129

Smoke detectors save lives - don't leave your some without one!



Omaha Fire Department 1516 Jackson Street Omaha, NE 68102

Telephone: (402) 444-5700 Fax: (402) 444-6378

DATE:

FAX MESSAGE

	TO:	vs consumçi	Product	gatety f	70Mi N	The Napran	nik	
		ATTN Robert  601 E 12th,  Kansas City	Fed Bld			re Investic	ation Bureau	
	Note	es/Comments: _						
×	F	Bob - Attac This report	·					
	<u></u>				this re	oort or its	Please call distribution	
-		message consistes are not receive		_ pages and		thank you -	Joe ontact the sender if	all

## OMAHA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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95/029	CCC 2/29
(x) Accidental ( ) Incendiary ( ) Att/Arson ( ) Under Inves	

,			FIRE IN	IVESTIC	SATION RI	EPORT	•		Att/Arson Under Investigati No Alarm, Inv. Or
RB#	Zone			Co. No.	Туре	of Alarm		0.F.D.	File No.
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					Wednes		4 Oct	: 95	1509 Hrs
Caller (Name/Address)	Phone)					44			
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Cloud Cover Pt Su	nny		Incide	nt Commar	nder B/C	Bosil	jevac,	128	3
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DAVENPOR Page 2 of 6

FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT CONTINUATION

1029 CCC 2129

INCIDENT ADDRESS:

VICTIM OR BUSINESS:

D336			
DAY: Wednesday	DATE: 4 Oct. 95	TIME: 1509 Hours	OFD FILE NO 9510-14 <u>605</u>
THIS REPORT DAY: Thursday	MADE: DATE: 5 Oct. 95	<b>TIME:</b> 1015 Hrs	OPD RB #

Synopsis

This report concerns itself with a house fire that occurred on Wednesday, October 4th, 1995, at 1509 Hours at Street. This fire, with the information available at this time, is considered to be Accidental. Loss to the structure is estimated at \$50,000. The damage to the contents is estimated at \$20,000.

Persons Mentioned in this Report Owner/Victim:

Occupants:

daughter-in-law) (grandson) DOB 3/10/92

Omaha Fire Department Personnel:

B/C BOSILJEVAC, #283 Capt OTTO, E34C, #216

Capt. STRAWN, J., OFD #397/OPD #9029 Capt. ADOLF, D. OFD #0373/OPD #9026

Capt. DAHLQUIST, R., OFD #406/OPD #9027

<u>Details of Investigation</u>

On Wednesday, October 4th, 1995, at 1516 Hours, Reporting Officer STRAWN and Investigating Officers Dave ADOLF and DAHLQUIST were notified via the dispatcher to report to the scene of a working fire at

Upon arriving at location, Reporting Officers saw a 2&1/2 story single family dwelling of ordinary and wood construction. The fire appeared to have been vented out of the basement windows on the east and west sides, and there showed severe blistering and heavy soot and smoke to the exterior siding on the first floor.

Reporting Officers first talked with B/C BOSILJEVAC, #283, Batt: 4,

Typed by: T. Myers 5 Oct 95 RB# REPORTING OFFICER/SERIAL # Capt. STRAWN, J., OFD #397/OPD #9029

DAVENPOR

FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT 95/024 CCC 2129

INCIDENT ADDRESS:

VICTIM/BUSINESS

RB #

DAY/DATE/TIME:

Wednesday 4 Oct 95 1509 Hours

OFD NO. 9510-14605

C shift. He stated that arriving firefighters found heavy smoke and flames coming from the basement windows of this residence. Chief BOSILJEVAC further stated that Capt OTTO, of Engine 34, C shift, #216, and his crew advanced an attack line into the basement and found the heaviest amount of fire in the center area of the main room. No forcible entry was needed as the occupants were home at the time of the fire and left it open after escaping.

Area of Fire

A walk around this residence shows that this 2 1/2 story single family dwelling has metal siding, and it appears to be kept up and well-maintained. There is an outside wood fire escape leading to the ground from the second floor, located on the west side of this residence.

A walk around the outside shows blackened, blistered and melted siding above the basement windows on the east and west sides. There are visible brownish smoke trails that can be seen above the front door on the porch in the front of this residence, which would be the south side, and for fire purposes, this would be the A side of the building. All windows on all floors had been broken by the firefighters in ventilating this heavily-involved structure.

As Reporting Officers entered the rear of this residence through the basement entrance door, they went down approximately 8 steps, and entered into the laundry room. This is a smaller room, and it contains the heating, the electrical panel and a washer and dryer. At the time of our arrival, firefighters were overhauling the ceiling area, checking for fire extension in this area.

There is another room, that appears to have only smoke damage and broken windows, to the left of the laundry room. It's just a small, enclosed workshop area with a workbench, and several hand tools are in this area.

As you continue through the laundry area, you go down approximately 3 steps, and then enter into the main, open area of the basement. To your left as you go down those 3 steps, there is a small, single waterbed that would be located in the northeast corner of this

Typed by: T. Myers 5 Oct 95

REPORTING OFFICER/SERIAL # Capt. STRANN, J., 0FD #397/OPD #9029 ONGNAL

DAVENPOR Page 4 of 6

FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT
CONTINUATION

95/024ccc 2129

INCIDENT ADDRESS:

VICTIM/BUSINESS

DAY/DATE/TIME:

Wednesday 4 Oct 95 1509 Hours

RB #

OFD NO. 9510-14605

area

Directly in front of you there is a piano facing you as you walk toward it, and on the other side of the piano, a couch abuts the piano. These are located in the center of this open, main room of the basement.

There is a double-bed in the southeast corner that had some sheets hung around it, so as to separate it from the rest of this room.

As you continue around this room, there's a fireplace located in the center of the south wall. There were 2 easy chairs located just in front of the fireplace. One of these easy chairs was beside the double-bed. The easy chair and the double-bed appear to have the worst fire damage, as there is heavy charring to the wood, and the majority of the materials for the bedding and cushions in this chair have been completely consumed by fire. The second easy chair, located away form the double-bed and fireplace, does have fire damage, however, there is material in the cushions still left, showing that it had not burned as long or as fast or as hot as the other chair or bed in this area.

Most of the fire damage is located around and above this double-bed area in the southeast corner of this main room of the basement. This is the point of the heaviest char. Also, the fire patterns show that the fire burned here longest and then appeared to go around the room in both directions, and consume all the furnishing throughout the basement.

This room had old cedar used in its construction. Also, it was used as a type of paneling half way up from the floor, all the way around the room. This cedar had been stained and shellacked, and it also attributed to the quick, heavy build-up of fire prior to firefighters' arrival.

The basement area is considered a total loss. There is smoke, water and some fire extension up the stairway onto the first floor. There is water and smoke damage to the 3rd floor.

Typed by: T. Myers 5 Oct 95

RR#

REPORTING OFFICER/SERIAL # Capt. STRAWN, J., QFD #397/OPD #9029

TO

ONICHAL 95-1024 CCC 2129

DAVENPOR Page 5 of 6

#### FIRE INVESTIGATION REPORT CONTINUATION

INCIDENT ADDRESS:

VICTIM/BUSINESS

DAY/DATE/TIME:

وي المراجع الماجح

Wednesday 4 Oct 95 1509 Hours

RB #

OFD NO. 9510-14605

The Point of origin appeared to have been in the southeast corner, in the area of the double-bed and the chair located just off the double-bed. Witnesses stated that juveniles were playing with a lighter in this area just prior to the fire being reported.

Details of Investigation (cont)

The first interview by Reporting Officers was with the mother, who was at home at the time of the fire, the state of the fire, been living with her husband at what would be her in-law's house, here t, with her 2 sons, and and

Mrs stated that she and her 2 sons were home at the time of the fire. She stated she was upstairs when her oldest son, came up the basement stairs and alerted her that there was a fire in the basement. Stated that she attempted to go down the steps into the basement area. When she started down the steps, she was met by heat and smoke. She could see into the main area of the basement, and noticed that there were flames at the bottom and on the sides of her double-bed. The flames were also in the chair located closest to her double-bed, the small easy chair, and at this time, the 2 hanging sheets that had separated her bed from the rest of the room caught fire and were burning.

Mrs stated that there are only 2 lighters located in this home. She had in her possession her lighter, and thinks that possibly the juveniles had found the BIC lighter with the extended tip used to light either the fireplace or the grill.

Reporting Officers next talked with the juveniles. Capt Dave ADOLF talked with and and ascertained that they had indeed found a BIC lighter in a drawer upstairs, had taken it to the basement area, and one or both had been flicking the BIC when it apparently caught the bedding sheets and chair on fire. The and had a long that stated that this lighter was a brown BIC, and had a long red tip on the end, and that they had dropped it in the area of their single waterbed upon exiting at the time of the fire.

It is the opinion of the Investigating Officers, based on the

Typed by: T. Myers 5 Oct 95

REPORTING OFFICER/SERIAL # Capt. STRAWN, J., OFD #397/OPD #9029

DAVENPOR Page 6 of 6

#### FIRE INVESTIGATION CONTINUATION

INCIDENT ADDRESS:

VICTIM/BUSINESS

Day/Date/Time;

Wednesday 4 Oct 95 1509 Hours

OFD NO.

9510-14605

information available at the time of this report, that this fire that happened on October 4th, 1995, at | Accidental.

t is considered

It should be noted that photos were taken, due to the extensive damage, and that a photo log was made by Investigating Officer Dave ADOLF.

END OF REPORT

951024 CCC 2129

Typed by: T. Myers 5 Oct 95

RB#

REPORTING OFFICER/SERIAL # Capt. STRAWN, J., OFD #397/OPD #9029

(11)

•	Fil	ELD ACTIVIT	Y COVERSHEE	T .	
1. REGION/STATE FOWR	2. OPERATION (Chec ( ) Inspection ( ) Telephone ( ( ) Other	/isit	3-15-96 4. NUMBER (For RO Use) 960315CCN0747		
5. ESTABLISHMENT	to-Tokai Corp.				
Name Script Address 11591 Er					
City Fontana		State	CA Zip S	2337 Te	ephone No
					her State
7. PRODUCTS COVERED  Long nose gas lig	hter		8. OTHER CONSUM	ER PRODUCTS	
( ) Wholesaler (	) Importer ) Own Label Distr ) Repackager	ributor		ered \$	Units Units
11. I.S. BUSINESS % Received % Shipped	ES COLLECTED	13. MIS COMPLED No Comments	14. HOURS Activity Travel		
15. REASON FOR ACTIVITY (As	ssignment Reference)	MFR/PRV	Excisions/	of Leduister	•
16. ANNOUNCED ( ) Rai UNANNOUNCED ( )	tionale for Announced In	nspection	Firm has further n	ovice.	
17. EMPLOYEE'S NAME	Т	ITLE		SIGNATURE	
18. (X ) ENDORSEMENT	( ) REMARKS	( ) 5	SUMMARY	( ) OTHER	
This fire occurred her four year old closet where they	i sister used a	long nose g	as lighter to	from burns gnite a	suffered when blanket in a
F/U: Refer to CCA	<b>A.</b>	Product Ex	s Identified AND cented by	2 6/30/97	
-	<del></del>	Comm	ents Processed	CICALTURE	
19. REVIEWER'S NAME		TITLE		SIGNATURE	
John R. Vece		S.P.	S.I.	10/	in f. lee
	. DISTRIBUTION			· //	
4-9-96	O: EPDS; cc: CC	A, P. Major	; cc: FOWR; cc	: FOCR.	

CPSC FORM NO. 167 (Revised 8/86)

. CASE NO. 60315CCN0747	2. INVESTIGATOR'S ID [8 ][9 ][2 ][9 ]		3. OFFICE CODE [8][3][0]		EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION		
OUJ I JCCINUTT							
DATE OF INCIDENTR MO [9][2][1][0][2]	5. DATE IN [0] INITIATE		YR [9 ][6 ][	MO DAY [ 3][ 1][ 3][ 0			
SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT OR CO	MPLAINT	<u></u>					
	Almonto a fire	department rep	port of a fi	re which was	started by a for	ur year old female using a	
This investigation was initiated ong nosed grill starter. Investigation closet. The four year old	alagues esites	A that the tour	VEST OIG S	na ner tintee	vear our sister w	CIC DISAME III S OCCIOUM	
open closet. The four year old lothing on the floor of the closes	obtained the g	riii starter and vear old was i	found by h	er father still	lying on one of	the shelves of the closet.	
le removed her to the outside,	but she died a	s a result of he	er injuries.	•		•	
to tomovod not to the end							
LOCATION (Home, school, etc.)	8. CITY				9. STATE Wisconsin		
lome [1]	][0] LaCrosse	•			Wisconsin		
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OA. FIRST PRODUCT  Grill starter [1][2][8][5]		Scripto brand	disposible	Scripto-Tok	ai Corp., 11591	Etwarda Ave., Fontana,	
Jill statter [. N=N=N=)		CA. 92337					
108. SECOND PRODUCT			RAND NAM	E, MODEL NU	MBER, MANUFAC	TURER & ADDRESS	
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AGE OF VICTIM 13. SEX	(USE NUMERICA	AL CODE)	14. DISPO	DSITION	18. 183	DAT DIAGROSIS	
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16. BODY PART	17. RESPONDE	: (4) (5) hardiner, i	1161147	ON SITE -	1	[0].[8][1	
Not Stated [7][0]	Fire Investiga	itor [3	]	TELEPHONE			
				OTHER -	•		
				22. REVIEW	ED RV	YR MO DAY	
20. ATTACHMENTS Multiple [9]	Fire De	E SOURCE pt. [0][1	Ĺ1 .	[8][1][3]		[9][6][0][4][0]	
Matthie [5]			• :			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
23. PERMISSION TO DISCLOSE I	NAMES					ev siates (V )	
(NON-NEISS CASES ON		Y DISCLOSE M'	Y NAME [ ]		NOT DISCLOSE N		
24. NARRATIVE (See Instruction	s on Page 2)			25. REGION	AL OFFICE DIRECT	I OR REVIEW	
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<b>!</b>		(USE ADDITION					

#### -960315CCN0747

#### SUMMARY:

This investigation was initiated through an area fire department who forwarded an incident which occurred in October of 1992 involving a grill lighter.

The fire report indicates that on the above listed date two children, a four year old and a three year old were playing "house" in a bedroom closet. The four year old came downstairs yelling "fire". The father went upstairs into the bedroom and found the younger child on a shelf of the closet which was on fire. He wrapped the child in a blanket and carried her outside. The older daughter stated that they were playing in the closet with a blanket and she ignited the blanket with a grill starter type of long nosed lighter. The younger daughter died as a result of her injuries.

#### PRE-INCIDENT:

The fire investigator was interviewed in connection with this incident. He stated that it was not unusual for the two girls to play in their parents closet; each taking a shelf as a "floor" in their make believe house. He stated that his interview with the parents revealed that the grill starter had been left on the coffee table in the living room of the home. The grill starter did have an "on/off" switch, which had apparently been left in the "on" position.

The parents did not have any knowledge as to when the grill starter had been taken by the older daughter. It was relatively early in the morning, approximately 9:30 a.m., and the other members in the family who were home at the time of this incident were sleeping or watching television in the kitchen or living room on the lower level of the home.

The two girls were playing in the upstairs bedroom, unsupervised, between 20 and 30 minutes prior to this incident.

#### INCIDENT:

At approximately 9:30 a.m., the older daughter came downstairs yelling "fire". The father went upstairs into the bedroom of the home. The home smoke detector, located in the upstairs hallway did sound at approximately the same time the father reached the fire scene.

The father found the closet area on fire, with his younger daughter on fire on the upper shelf of the closet. He wrapped her in a blanket and carried her outside.

#### POST-INCIDENT:

The fire investigator stated that no negligence was found on the part of the parents. He stated that the girls were playing with a blanket in the closet, which also contained a pile of clothing on the floor. He stated that there were no doors on the closet and the girls would often make a "bed" for themselves on the closet shelves. The older daughter indicated that she had ignited the blanket with the grill starter, and the flame spread to clothing lying on the floor of the closet which contained three shelves. (See photos attached) The cause of the fire was ruled as children playing with a lighter. The younger daughter died as a result of her injuries.

The fire investigator stated that he feels that in the subject case, both parents smoked and used this lighter instead of a cigarette lighter. He added that he feels these grill starters are currently being purchased by people who need to start their gas grills. He stated that many of the gas grills being used today are 2-4 years of age and the igniters are beginning to wear out. He stated that many people, himself included, use the long nose grill starters to light their gas grills instead of purchasing a new igniter for their grills.

#### PRODUCT INFORMATION:

Manufacturer:

Scripto

Model:

Unknown-Disposable type grill starter/lighter

#### ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A- Fire Department Photographs Exhibit B-Fire Department Report

.

I was ralled at 0930 hours and requested to report to reported house tire with an injury.

I arrived at 0945 and contacted Assistan. Chief Jones. He intoreud as that thore was a Closet fire in the nostairs begroom of win and one three year old girl was rescued from the tire area by her father and transported to Lutheran Hospital with very bad buins. Chief Jones also stated that the father nonrescued a second dari from the seme area and that the family was in a meighnorm home.

I made contact with the family at the neighbors house. I introvioused Based on those interviews and my subsequent fire cause and arigin investigation, the following is must probable explanation of what had taken

was asleep at the time of the tire on the downstairs onfa. were in the living room and or kitchen downstairs. - was watching television in the living room downstairs and ware playing in the master bedrucim impetates (this is common i.

fire. He also found will on fire on the third shelf of the involved closest the urapped her in a blanket and evacuated her to the outside.

was awaken, by the relling that there was a fire. and carried them outside.

According to design interview. And and were playing in the closes. was on the shelt and on the finne. They were playing with a binning. Une of them ignated the blanket with a long nowe lighter.

The smoke alarm which was located in the half upstairs did activate about the time Preached the fire area.

the Grigin of the fire was on or near the Tlage of the southwest election the mester badroom, nuclimest part of the apartment.

the probable cause was children playing with a lighter.

PETER A SIJNSTW. Deputy Phiet La Grofe Live Department

## BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION AND TRAINING

LA CROSSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

726 5TH AVENUE SOUTH LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN 54601



DATE OF INCIDENTS

APDRESS:

INCIDENT NUMBER:

IIME:

OFFICE HOURS Week Days 8:00-0:00 a.m.

2:15-3:45 pm

Ares Code 608 789-7254

789-7205

TYPE OF + IRE:

OWNER:

ว.ล.ศ.

THOME NUMBER'S

INNER'S INSUHANCE!

FIRE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATOR:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

10/20/92



20/5

0417

**BEDIRUUM** 

LA CROSSE HOUSING AGENDRITY

284-8232

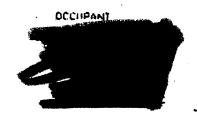
PAIR DINHAM BUILDING OWNER OCCUPANTS - NO INSURANCE

DEPUT: CHIEF PETER J. STINSIN, LA CHUSSE FIRE

DEPARTMENT

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DECEMBANGES



D.O.A.

4/14/40

12/25/59

4 TEARS

3 YEARS

i YEAR

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BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION AND TRAINING

LA CROSSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

726 5TH AVENUE SOUTH LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN 54601



March 14, 1996

TO:

OFFICE HOURS Week Days 8:00-9:00 a.m.

ma thil-ert

Arms Code 604 785 7264

785 -7265

Robin Russ

United States Consumer Protection Agency

Milwaukee Wi

FROM:

Lieutement Joffery Brukmer

SUBJECT: Grill Lighters

Enclosed you will find information on a fire that was caused by children using a grill lighter. This fire caused the death of one child and caused a knee injury to one fire fighter. Damage was contained to one spartment in a four apartment building. If further information is meded, feel free to contain me at 808-789 7271.

663 **0120**A

960315CCN0747

Exhibit B



Body outline on shelf





Closet floor-Note lighter by crib
Body outline on shelf





Ceiling area next to closet





Closet next to fire area.





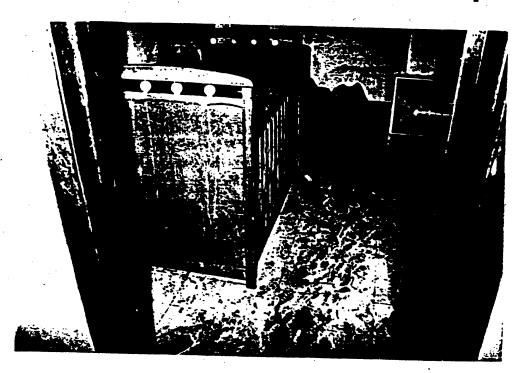
Fire origin-Closet Floor
Fire area in closet to window

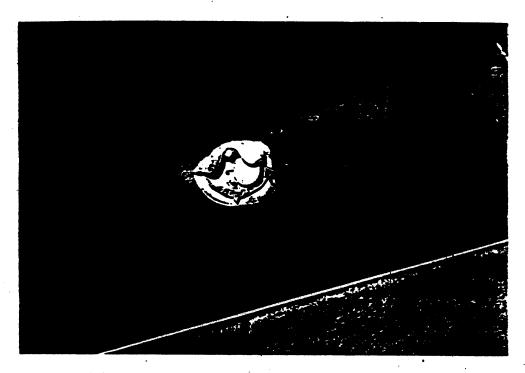




Wall west end of fire room

Looking into fire room from doorway





Smoke Detector
Fire origin-Closet floor



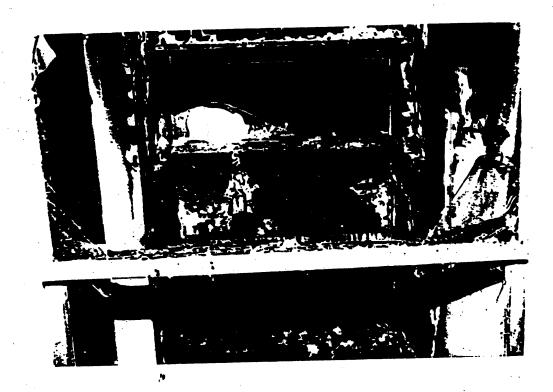
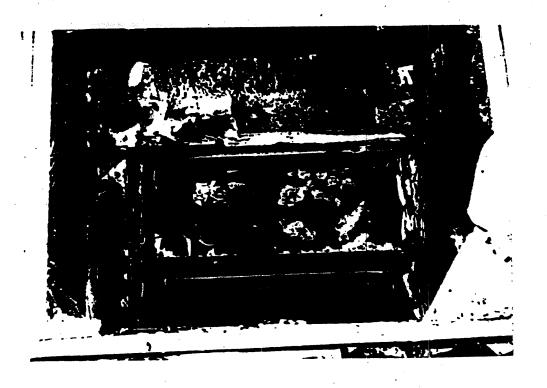


Photo of closet-through bedroom window





Window across from closet.

Grill lighter-Source of Ignition



Exhibit A

JUL 1 5 1996

# F9670004 A

Oakland, CA (Alameda Co.) Oakland Tribune (Cir. D. 152,739) (Cir. S. 156,163)

JUN 25 1996

ill lighters dangerous in the wrong hands

JOURNAL SENTINEL

FRANKLIN, Wis. — The federal government, with the help of a Franklin fire official, is conducting a nationwide investigation of fires caused by children playing with long-nosed butane lighters designed to ignite barbecue grills.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is examining whether these grill lighters should be required to have the kind of child-resistant controls that have been required of disposable cigarette lighters since mid-1994.

The investigation, pushed by Franklin Fire Lt. Burton Robertson, comes in the wake of fires across the country caused by the devices. Somé of the fires have resulted in deaths, injuries or extensive property damage.

Some examples:

month-old twins, died June 4 when their 3-year-old sister set a bed on fire with a grill lighter at their home in Dillon County, S.C. The older girl escaped without injury, but the twins apparently fled into an adjoining bathroom and were overcome by smoke. 2000年3月1日中海党第

died of smoke inhalation Jan. 26, the day after he started a fire while playing

Mass.

 $\geq 21$ , died of smoke inhalation last Dec. 15 after saving the lives of her three young children by dropping them from an upstairs window of her burning apartment into the hands of neighbors in Medina, Ohio.

had tried to hide a grill lighter in a bookcase because the children — all younger than 5. - had a history of playing with fire. But the children saw where; she put the lighter and later set a sofa ablaze with it.

vere burns Nov. 22, 1992, two days after flames flashed through the open-closet shelves where she had climbed while playing house in her La Crosse, Wis., home. She had wrapped herself in a blanket, which was among cloth that ignited when she and a 4-year-old sister played with a grill lighter.

Franklin Fire Lt. Robertson can be reached by e-mail at FyrLieutaol.com. Incidents regarding still lighters can be reported to the, Consumer Product Safety Commission in Maryland by calling (800) 638-2772, or by calling! Robin Ross at 679-8546.

with a grill lighter in his family's second-floor flat in Marlborough,

os de de

N91830362

CARMO7

4	(   F	EK MIO				
1. TASK NUMBER 96041	L0CCC5104	2. INVESTI 8055	GATOR'S ID	EPIDEMIOLOGIC		
		INVESTIGATION				
3. OFFICE CODE	4. DATE OF ACCIDENT YR MO DAY 96 01 25		MITIATED MO DAY 04 19	REPORT		
	old male was pro	ecue gril	1s clothin 1 dighter, 250 Mrs/Prvtblrs or Hentified AN	moke inhalation g and other causing \$10,000		
		Excer	ie. by	- 7m 6/30/97		
7. LOCATION (Home, School Home	,etc.) 8. CITY Marlbo	Comments	Processed.	9.STATE MA.		
10A. FIRST PRODUCT Butane Barbecue Lighter	Butane Barbecue 40 00 UNKNOWN					
	UNKNOWN					
11A. SECOND PRODUCT Clothing 1	645 11B. TRAD	e/brand name Unknown		19C. MODEL NUMBER UNKNOWN		
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12. AGE OF VICTIM	13. SEX 1	14. DISPOS	TTION	15. INJURY DIAGNOSIS		
. 004		Fatality	y 8	Anoxia 65		
16. BODY PART (S) INVOLVED APB 85	17.RESPONDENT Deputy Fire Chief	18. TYPE OF INVESTIGATE On-Site	CON	19. TIME SPENT (OPERATIONAL HOURS) 05.0		
20. ATTACHMENT (S)	21. CASE SOURCE	<u> </u>	22. SAMPLE	COLLECTION MARKET		
Fire Report 2	Newspaper	05	22. SAMPLE COLLECTION NUMBER NONE			
23. PERMISSION TO DISC	COSE NAMES (NON NEISS (	Cases only)				
24. REVIEW DATE 05/29/96	25. REVIEWED BY \$969	Messey	26. REGIONAL	OFFICE DIRECTOR		
27. DISTRIBUTION O: EHDS CC:		10				

CPSC FORM 182 (REVISED 10/93)

OMB NO. 3041-0029

#### 960410CCC5104

NOTE: The information contained in this report was provided by the deputy fire chief. Attempts to contact the victim's parents were unsuccessful. The newspaper report indicated that a cigarette lighter was involved in this accident. Fire officials identified the igniting source for this fire as a butane barbecue grill lighter.

#### PRE-ACCIDENT:

The deputy chief reported that the victim resided with his parents and that at mid-day he was at home with his father and that his father was taking a shower.

#### ACCIDENT:

At approximately 13:20 hours, the victim's father discovered that their apartment was on fire and when he was unable to reach his son through the flames, he telephoned the fire department, according to the deputy fire chief.

#### POST ACCIDENT:

The victim was removed from this apartment building and subsequently pronounced dead from smoke inhalation and respiratory burns and his father required treatment for smoke inhalation, according to the deputy chief, who added that \$70,000 property damage resulted from this fire.

The deputy chief stated that following this fire his investigators found the remains of a butane barbecue lighter in the victim's apartment, which they identified as the ignition source for this fire. He said that his barbecue grill lighter was burned so badly that its brand manufacturer, etc., could not be identified.

#### STANDARDS INFORMATION:

None.

#### SAMPLES COLLECTED:

None.

#### 960410CCC5104

#### PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION:

The deputy chief described the butane, barbecue grill lighter, as being approximately 6" long and having a metal body. He said that it was damaged so badly by the fire that its brand, manufacturer, etc. could not be determined.

No information was obtained concerning the victim's clothing.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

Attached to this report as exhibit #1 is a copy of the local fire report on this accident.

i C'O'CONNELL-OU 16/46

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REQUEST FORM

DOCUMENT NUMBER:

N9631352A

DATE OF INCIDENT:

//25/4/ CATID: CARMO7 1996

FOLLOW-UP REQUESTED

HAZARD ANALYSIS ( ) CRM

TYPE FOLLOW-UP

TELEPHONE ( ) ON-SITE (X)

HEADQUARTERS CONTACT:

Michael Bogumill 504-0400 x1368

Backup: Bob Poth 504-0400 x1375

ASSIGNMENT MESSAGE: For any child playing with fire involving a cigarette lighter. Determine the model and manufacturer's name, type of lighter (refillable/disposable and fluid/butane), operating mechanism, age of child who operated the lighter, and accident scenario. Describe operating mechanism in detail and collect lighter, if possible.

The new regulation requiring disposable butane lighters and all novelty lighters to be child-resistant went into effect in July 1994.

Person(s) to Contact:

1) Fire Dept 2) Bruce & Pa+ He Neil Devents)

Guidelines:

Appendix 45

Task Number:

Sk Number:

9004100005104

Requested by: J. LANSING

CPSC Form 324A (10/95)

CIERT B

MILFORD DAILY NEWS

MILFORD, MA DAILY 15,000

SATURDAY

JAN 27 1996

160

SF

Boy, 4, Dies

MARLBORO — A little boy, who apparently was intrigued by cigarette lighters, died yesterday of burns he received in a fire Thursday that authorities suspect he accidentally started with a butane lighter.

Massachusetts General Hospital where he was rushed after being rescued from his burning apartment by a firefighter.

He suffered smoke inhalation, respiratory burns and second and third degree burns to

his face and hand.

The boy's father, was taking a shower when the fire broke out. He attempted to save his son, but could not reach him through the flames.

The father was treated at WRAPUP, Page 16 A

Marlboro Hospital for burns and smoke inhalation, and his

mother, and his sister, 11, were not home when the fire broke outabout 1:20 Thursday afternoon.

9404100005104

NG63-0352A

28 MAR 1996

## 9604100005104



### MASSACHUSETTS FIRE INCIDENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE O 1010 Commonwealth Avenue Boston,

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL Boston, Massachusetts 02215



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	MEMI	BER MAKING	REPORT			******	······································			<u>L</u>	ATE	accrit carase	and acy	of too	Any i	most lik spresent sprejitio	ely ation ns oi		the va	the sole lighters while lighty or ate rine

TASK NO. 960410CCC5104	REGIONAL OFFICE NYCO
	(1645) INVESTIGATOR ID 8055
CATEGORY CARM071996	HOURS REPORTED 5.0
COMMENTS:	
THE SYNOPSIS STATES TE NARRATIVE FAILS TO MEN BUTANE BARBEQUE LIGHTE EQUIPMENT.	HAT THE VICTIM IGNITED HIS CLOTHING, YET NOTION THIS FACT. THE PRODUCT CODE FOR ER SHOULD BE 4060, FUEL-BURNING LIGHTING
	1297 is covered 7
	N S
	•
•	VIEWER SUZANNE NEWMAN DATE 6/4/96
F YOU BELIEVE THE IDENTIFY OF THE TREE THE SOX AND SIGN	NTIFIED DEFICIENCIES REQUIRE CONTACTING D REQUESTING FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE HERE.
_	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	SIGNATURE
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				9/-
1. CASE NO.	2	INVESTIGATOR'S ID	3. OFFICE CODE	<u> </u>
9604240	CC 5139	3 3 3 3	591	EPIDEMIOLOGIC
4. DATE OF YR	110	. DATE YR	MO DAY	INVESTIGATION
9:6	0305	INITIATED 9:6		\$
				REPORT
6. SYNOPSIS OF ACCIDENT	FOR COMPLAINT A	nother and	child	he victims of a house
Fire after	the two ye	at old child	dilatil	o small fires in the
basement o	f their he	oine with	Parted two	small fires in the
Started the	fires the	mathe a	alested by s.	Lter After the child
able to ex.	t the home	with his	alested by s	make detectors and was
The fire dep	artment as	SIFR REF	child without	injury to either of the
7. LOCATION (Home, school,			ickly extinguished	d the blaze
Home !	) Dasement	10 M	1 1	9. STATE
1CA FIRST PRODUCT	JUSEMENT		undelein	エレ
Fireplace light	he- 1247	MANOPACIONER	AME, MODEL NUMBER. A. M	a flame
108. SECOND PRODUCT	ART LIA II/	J SCFIR	to lighter	
		118. TRADE/BRAND NA MANUFACTURER	AME, MODEL NUMBER, & ADDRESS	
12. AGE OF VICTIM			•	
000	13. SEX (Use numerical coo	14. DISPOSITIO	ON	15. INJURY DIAGNOSIS
61010	FEMALE .2 UNKNOWN .3	D no,	mory 0	no injury 70
16. SCDY PART	17. RESPO	NDENT(S) (Mother, Friend)	18. TYPE INVEST	
No injury	99 Fire	- Investigator	3 ON SITE TELEPHONE	1 6
20. ATTACHMENTS	21. 0	ASE SOURCE	22. REVIEWED BY	3 25
Multiple	191 Ne.	S paper 05	-	YR MO DAY
23. PERMISSION TO DISCLOSE N		3 paper [0] 3		
(NON-NEISS CASES ONLY	•	P. 1414 B.		
24. NARRATIVE (See Instructions of	· Crs	C MAY DISCLOSE MY NAME	CPSC MA	Y NOT DISCLOSE MY NAME:
		•	25. REGIONAL OFFICE D	RECTOR REVIEW DATE
	TIFIED Tents made			
MFR/PRWAR NO	No Comments made No Comments attached Comments Attached		CPSA 6 INTI Charred	
WEKL	Commissions Rol roque		CPSA 6 MICH	
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	further.		Products Identified  Excepted by	to a D
		. •	Firms Notified.	TM 6/30/91)
			Comments Processed	
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	(USE	OTHER SIDE AND ADDITIONAL S	HEETS IF NECESSARY	

CPSC FCRM NO. 182 (Revised 10/85)

APPROVED FOR USE THROUGH 5:31E1 OMB NO. 3041-0029

***********
* GENERIC TELEPHONE INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE *
* This generic telephone interview questionnaire is to be * used during the telephone follow-up investigation of * incidents involving products or hazards for which there * is no specific telephone questionnaire. Please record each* * attempt to establish contact with the victim or parent on * the chart below.
* RECORD OF CALLS *
*
*  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *
When you have reached an appropriate respondent, you may want to introduce yourself and the investigation program in the following manner:  Hello. May I please speak with
(If desired respondent is not available, ask when would be a good time to contact him/her and record the suggested call back time. If the respondent is available, continue with the interview).
My name is I am working with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. I understand that you (your son, etc.) were injured while using a(e.g. riding lawn mower) . We are trying to learn how and why these accidents occur so that we can help others avoid similar accidents. Would you help us by answering a few questions. This will only take about 10 minutes of your time.
Interviewer: Check type of respondent (ask for parent if victim was a child under 15):  Victim Parent

## TASK NUMBER 960424 CCC 5139

1. Can you tell me what happened? A mother and her two year old ehild were alone in their home while the nother was showering the child obtained a fireplace lighter from its normal storage place in a kitchen Cabinet. The child was playing with the lighter in the basement and sturbed two small fires. The first fire ignited the nylon netting of a childs basketball hoop. The second fire ignited a throw rug that was draped over a piece of exersice equipment. Soon after the second fire started smake detectors began to ring and the childs mother became aware of the fire. The mother called the fire department and was able to exit the home with her son without injury to either one of them The fire department arrived and extinguished the fire in minutes. Danages were confined to the basement of the home. The Fire investigators examined the lighter and determined that all safety features were intact and the lighter was working as designed. The lighter was found with an on-eff switch in the on pasition. The mother of the child states however, that the lighter was always stored in the off position and the child must have been able to operate the lighter.

## TASK NUMBER 960424CCC 5139

****	****************
* * * * * *	If any of the following questions were answered during the *victim's description of the incident, you may skip the question (and insert the information at a latter time), if *the answer is perfectly clear. Better approach might be to ask the question again with a preface such as: "When
*	you described the incident to me earlier, you said
****	**************
answ	When the incident occurred, was anyone injured? $N_{C}$ If yes, er the following questions? (If no injury, enter N/ $\lambda$ ; if more two individuals were injured, use an additional sheet.)
	Injured Person # 1 Injured Ferson # 2
	Who was injured? (Relationship to respondent, ID) \(\frac{\lambda/\lambda}{\lambda}\)
	Age/Sex//
	Type of Injury (e.g. N/A N/A
	Body part injured NA
	Type treatment (e.g. N/A
	Any permanent effects (e.g. nerve damage)
4. the	Now, if I could, I would like to obtain some information on incident. What was the date and time of injury?
	Date 3-5-96 Time of day 11:45 and/pm
5.	Where did the accident occur? (e.g. backyard, school, kitchen)
	Basement home
	city Mundelein State IL

## TASK NUMBER 960424 CCC 5139

(e.g. mowing the grass in the backyard with a ride-on move	incident
There were no injuries but the child appar	
retrieved the lighter from a Kitchen Cabin	ne+
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
7. What exactly was ( <u>the injured party</u> ) doing or trying to turn uphill what the time of the incident (e.g. trying to turn uphill what steep grade)?  There were no injuries but the exactly was (the injuries but the injuries but the exactly was (the injuries but the injuries but the exactly was (the injuries bu	tile on a
was apparently playing with the lighter.	.h. 6
	-
S Wad ( the initial)	
8. Had (the injured party) performed this action or before. NO If yes, include the number of times, know operation, experience, etc.)	activity ledge of
If performed before, what was different this time?	
. —————————————————————————————————————	· .
	-
	-

TASK NUMBER 960424CCC5139	
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9. What did ( <u>the injured party, witnesses, etc.</u> ) do immediately after the incident (including the pursuit of medical treatment)?
The nother became aware of the fire when
Smoke detectors because to our classiff
Smoke deketors began to ring, she called the fire department and exited with her son there
Were 10 in finish
were no injurier
10. Did ( <u>the injured party</u> ) have any health problems that may have been a factor in the incident (e.g. poor eye sight)
11. What was the environment like at the time and place of the incident (probe for weather conditions, type terrain, storage of materials in area, etc.)  The incident occurred indoors  and no unusual environmental factors were noted
12. Did you or your family incur any economic loss (e.g. damage to a building, etc.)? $Y \in S$ If yes, describe including estimated cost
. Fire, water and, smoke damages are
estimated at \$10,000 by the fire department.
The family, however, reports losses near 60,000

TASK	NUMBER	960424 ((25139

13. Could I ask just a couple of more questions about the product?
What is the approximate age (e_months to   vest
Brand name, if known Aim o' Flame
Manufacturer Scripto
Model (number) Jnknown
Size/capacity
color/snape Red and black with a slide switch like a flast
Other The slide worth with a slide switch like a flash
Other the slide switch must be switched on before the trigger switch can be depressed.
14. Was the product damaged before or during the incident? No
15. Were any safety doubt
and the safety devices present, damaged or missing?
The state of the s
The child however was able
to get the lighter to work.
16. Is the product still available? Yes If not, give the
The tamb has and
are 13 willing to allow CASC to view the 111
if necessary,

## TASK NUMBER 960424CCC5139

17. Is there anything else you think I should know in order to understand the incident?
The victim has tested her children with the lighter, she found that both her four year old and
a two year old could operate the lighter with your ItI
difficulty. The victim also complains because the
lighters design is very similar to a tox.
The victim says that the lighters handel is plastic
and bright red and could easily be mistaken
as a toy.
Prepare to close the interview by thanking the respondent for assisting us in collecting information on a potential product safety problem. At this point, you should inform the respondent that we routinely share incident information with the manufacturers to inform them that their product was involved in an incident. Some manufacturers ask for the victim's name and address so that they can obtain additional information on their product. May we release your name with this incident or do you wish that your identity remain confidential.  You are authorized to disclose my name and address.  My identity is to remain confidential.
You should end the investigation by asking this question, "If we need additional information on this incident, can we call you .
/es No
If yes, what is the best time of day to contact you?
Day of week not specified Time of day Not Specified AM/PM

Note: Any additional comments can be submitted on another page.



### COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTON DISTRICT

FAX

960424CCC 5139

	1		
Fax to number:	103-821-8272		
	Brandon D. Cosby		
Date:	5-7-96		
From:	DIANNE @ CFPD		
Number of pages:	4		
· ·			
Additional comments:	111 12 13 POOP 1 760457		
	Investigation Report		
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COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

# 960424ccc 5139

## COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NFIRS Incident Report

	COLLON DI	SIKIL	ı		i	NFIRS	Inci	dent Rep	
FDID Incident/Exp LA142 960439-00 0	<b>Date</b> 3/05/96	Day (	Of Week Tuesday	-	<b>larm</b> 1145	Arriv 114	ed	In Servi	
Type of Situation Fou [11] Structure Fire		Type of Action Taken Mutua			utual Aid ] Receiva				
Fixed Property Use [411] 1-Family Dwelli	ng-Year		Ignition Factor [36] Children with, child playi						
Correct Address 0257 ELMW000 AV MND		Zip Code Census Trac 60060 864104				-			
Occupant Name MARTIN, ROBERT S	Telephor 84756605		Room/Ap	ot.					
Owner Name MARTIN, ROBERT 3	Owner Ac 0257 ELM				Tel:	<b>ephone</b> 660567			
Method of Alarm From F [1] Telephone Direct	Public		istrict BA] MAP		Shif	t	#	Alarms	
# Fire Service Personnel Responded	# Engî Respon 5		# Aar Res	ial App sponded	paratus	)	85Þ0	Vehicles nded	
Injuries Fire Service	0 Other	0	Fatalities Fire Society						
Complex [41] Dwelling Complex			Mobile Property Type [0] Undetermined/not reported						
Area of Origin [14] Lounge area			Equipment Involved In Ignition [98] No equipment involved					-	
form of Heat Ignition [46] Lighter	<b>Type</b> [72]	of M		Ignit	ed Form	of Mat	eria	al Ignite Pring, su	ā
<pre>1ethod of Extinguishmer [5] Preconnect w/ tank</pre>	it Le	evel 0	f Fire	Origin				lated Los	s
lumber of Stories 2] Two stories		Construction Type [7] Protected wood frame							
xtent of Flame Damage 3] Room of origin		Extent of Smoke Damage [6] Structure of origin				1			
etector Performance 1] Detectors present &		Sprinkler Performance [8] No equipment				1			
ype of Material Genera 72] Cotton/Rayon	j	Avenue Of Smoke Travel [4] Stairwell				-			
orm of Material Genera	ting/Smoke	a [14]	Floor	coveri	ng, sur	face			1
					***************************************				1

960 424 CCC 5139

Date: March 12, 1996

To: Chief A Lewis Landry

From: Investigator Ronald Neubauer

Re:

Fire Investigation
O257 Elmwood

Oak Terrace Subdivision Mundelein, Il 60060

We were called to do an investigation of a fire at the above address on March 5, 1996, at approximately 11:45 a.m. The investigation was done by Ron Neubauer, and Larry Grandt from the Countryside Fire Department, and Agent Mitch Kushner of the State Fire Marshals Office.

An investigation as to the cause and origin was done and the following was determined:

The fire was intentionally started in the lower level of a tri-level single family dwelling by Franky Martin, 2 year old son, of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martin. The homeowner is Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martin, of the same address, and only Mrs. Martin was home at the time of the fire.

### Areas of Fire Origin:

The first Fire Origin Area was in the lower level family room that centered around a treadmill located to the right of the fireplace.

The second Fire Origin Area was to the left of the fireplace. Located in this area was a cardboard box, and a child's basketball hoop setup.

The fireplace was located on the north wall of the room, approximately in the center. The two areas of origin were about 12 feet apart, and there were no signs of the fire communicating from one point to the other. A lighter was found on the floor approximately 5 feet from the treadmill. The lighter required two actions to ignite; first a switch had to be slid to the "on" position, and then the trigger style lever had to be pulled. The lighter was found with switch in the "on" position.

The fires were small in nature and caused heat damage to the television close by, and a cable box. Directly above the area of origin, close to the treadmill, was a light fixture

960424ccc 5139

which had been melted due to the heat of the fire. Fire damage occurred to the corner and leg of a table and carpet in area of fires. The room of origin had heavy smoke damage and the remaining house had moderate smoke damage.

The fires were extinguished by the first fire companies responding. The first company reported heavy smoke conditions, but could not see a lot of fire in the lower level.

The interviews of the Child and Parents were conducted by FF Larry Grandt

#### Summary:

The fire appears to be incendiary without a civil disturbance. The fire started in two spots with a lighter. The fire was started by a 2 year old child playing with a lighter. It does not appear the fire was started because of anger or revenge. The possibility of the fire starting due to an act of God, weather, use of accelerants, or electrical, were eliminated. Photos of the fire were taken. The home was turned back to the homeowners. The insurance information was gathered and the investigation concluded.

If any future information becomes available it will be forwarded to you.

#### ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION RECIPCIO

Document Number 6-64-0195 G9640195 A	7_
Date of Irridant	
Pollow Op Respected Eazard Analysis	
Type rottom to Requested (Section 1)	5
Beadoughters Contact V. 7/	_
More of lighter and whether or not the surker Chain trief a ceident of cenarios. Where was lighter kept.	4
slet in the " all" and to	100
Obtain trief a ceident of cenario.	7
TELL MEN SHEW.	
	<u> </u>
	_
	-
Porroco(a) to a	-
Person(s) to Contact Jim Spiegel	
Country side Fire Deputy Chies.	
ILLINOIS	
Guideline	
Requested By Yate Wallace CCA	
Task Minder My 90140100	
Assigned to 3333	
Date 4/24/96	

ISSUE 3 0 APR 2 3 1996

G64\_0185 x

MAR 0 6 1955

Arlington Heights
Daily Herald
Lake County Edition

# 2-year-old sets house fire in Diamond Lake

By ROBIN MOHR Daily Herald Staff Writer

A 2-year-old boy who was playing with a fireplace lighter accidentally set two small fires in the basement of his home in Diamond Lake Tuesday morning.

No injuries were reported in the fires which began around 11:45 a.m. and took about five minutes to extinguish, Countryside Fire Deputy Chief Jim Spiegel said.

The boy's mother was able to escape the house with her son after smoke detectors sounded an alarm, Spiegel said.

Damage to the home was estimated at between \$5,000 and \$10,000. A burning carpet, plastic toys and rubber tread of an exercise machine sent tarlike smoke billowing through the house at 0257 Elmwood Ave. in an unincorporated area near Mundelein, Spiegel said.

3/5/44

(5139) Apo424 CCC 5/139 ISSUE 34

MAY 21 1996

G 65-0070

**B**AR 0.6 1996

11 Waukegan News-Sun 39,763

# Child playing with lighter starts fire near Mundelein

day morning, Countryside Fire Department officials said.

Countryside quickly extinguished the fire at 0257 Elmwood Ave., but the trilevel home sustained significant smoke damage, /according to officials.

No one was injured in the fire.

A 2-year-old child playing with "We were very fortunate they a fireplace lighter started a fire in had a smoke detector that was a home-outside Mundelein Tues- working," said Countryside Depuworking," said Countryside Deputy Chief Jim Spiegel.

Heavy smoke from the fire, which was concentrated in a lower level room, caused damage that was estimated to be under \$5,000.\

The Libertyville and Mundelein fire departments assisted Countryside at the scene.



#### ClearingHouse Format - With Manufacturer **Reported Incidents**

#### **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission** National Injury Information ClearingHouse

5/20/97

Page 1

Document Number:

G9650070A

Task Number:

Issue: 34

Date Received: 05/21/96

Confirmed:

Date Entered: 06/10/96

City: MUNDELEIN

State: IL

**Zip**: 00000

Source: 0

Type Of Contact: 20

**Prod**: 1285

CHARCOAL LIGHTERS, NOT SPECIFIED

Prod: 0

NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT

Date Injured: 03/05/96

Work Related : N

Age: 2

Sex: 0 UNKNOWN

Disposition: 0 0=NO INJURY

**Brand: MANUFACTURER UNKN** 

Screened ?:

Haz Type: 1 FIRES AND FLAMES

Model:0

Narrative:

A CHILD, AGE 2, STARTED A FIRE PLAYING WITH A FIREPLACE LIGHTER

OUTSIDE A HOME. NO INJURY. DAMAGE: \$5,000.

#### Clearinghouse Format - With MFR **Accident Investigations**

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission** National Injury Information Clearinghouse

5/20/97

Page 1

Task number: 960424CCC5139

Date Accident: 03/05/96

Date Entered: 05/30/96

City: MUNDELEIN

State: IL Type: 2=PHONE Source: 20

Sex: UNKNOWN

Status: C

Disposition: 0=NO INJURY

Age: 0

Location: HOME

Body Part: 99

Document Number: G9640195A

**Diagnosis: NOT STATED OR UNKNOWN** 

Category Id: SECT151996

Product 1: 1247

**FUEL CHARCOAL LIGHTERS** 

Product 2: 0

NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT

Manufacturer: SCRIPTO LIGHTER

Model: UNK

#### Synopsis:

A MOTHER AND CHILD WERE THE VICTIMS OF A HOUSE FIRE AFTER THE TWO YEAR OLD CHILD STARTED TWO SMALL FIRES IN THE BASEMENT OF THEIR HOME WITH A FIREPLACE LIGHTER. AFTER THE CHILD STARTED THE FIRES THE MOTHER WAS ALERTED BY SMOKE DETECTORS AND WAS ABLE TO EXIT THE HOME WITH HER

2. INVESTIGATOR'S ID OFFICE CODE **EPIDEWIOLOGIC** 960506 (((5155 INVESTIGATION 4. DATE OF ACCIDENT 5. DATE INVESTIGATION INITIATED REPORT 0! Bedroom bne. K 11A. TRADE/BRAND NAME, MODEL NUMBER, MANUFACTURER & ADDRESS m-n-Flame 108. SECOND PRODUCT 118. TRADE/BRAND NAME, MODEL NUMBER, MANUFACTURER & ADDRESS BEDDING, ns ()nknown 13. SEX (Use 14. DISPOSITION 15. INJURY DIAGNOSIS MALE FEMALE burns Released 16. BODY PART 17. RESPONDENT(S) (Mother, Friend) 18. TYPE INVESTIGATION lower Arms 19. TIME SPENT Fire officials ON SITE OTHER 20. ATTACHMENTS 21. CASE SOURCE 22. REVIEWED BY Multiple Other 23. PERMISSION TO DISCLOSE NAMES (MON-NEISS CASES ONLY) CPSC MAY DISCLOSE MY NAME CPSC MAY NOT DISCLOSE MY NAME 24. NARRATIVE (See Instructions on Other Side) 25. REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTOR REVIEW

(USE OTHER SIDE AND ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

***	**************************************									
*	GENERIC TELEPHONE INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE *									
*	GENERIC TELEPHONE INTERVIEW QUESTIONNALME									
~ +	This generic telephone interview questionnaire is to be *									
*	used during the telephone follow-up investigation of *									
· .	incidents involving products or hazards for which there *									
*	is no specific telephone questionnaire. Please record each*									
*	attempt to establish contact with the victim or parent on *									
*	the chart below.									
*	*									
*	RECORD OF CALLS									
*										
* [	Date Day of Wk Time Result * Date Day of Wk Time Result *									
* -	*									
*	**									
*	*									
*	* *									
*	*									
*	* * *									
*										
*	Key for result:									
*	NWN = Non-working number									
*	REF = Respondent refused interview									
*	WN = Wrong Number LB = Line Busy *									
*	NA = No Answer R = Recording *									
* * 1	**************************************									
	When you have reached an appropriate respondent, you may want									
	introduce yourself and the investigation program in the									
10.	llowing manner:									
	Hello. May I please speak with?									
	nello. May I please speak with									
17	f desired respondent is not available, ask when would be a good									
+ : .	me to contact him/her and record the suggested call back time.									
T F	the respondent is available, continue with the interview).									
T T	the respondent is available, continue with the interview,									
	My name is . I am working with									
the	My name is I am working with U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. I understand that you									
(1)	our son, etc.) were injured while using a <u>(e.g. riding lawn</u>									
MO1	wer) . We are trying to learn how and why these accidents occur									
SO	that we can help others avoid similar accidents. Would you help									
115	by answering a few questions. This will only take about 10									
	nutes of your time.									
411 ab 4										
	Interviewer: Check type of respondent (ask for parent if									
	victim was a child under 15):									
	Victim									
	Other specify relationship Fire Office S									

TASK NUMBER 240506 CCC 5155

Include: Please determine make of lighter & whether it was left in the lighter was if was lighter kept?

Where was it when whild bond it? Had the Child played with lighters before.

The mother of a three year old male child was rapping as her son watched a video. The child want to the bettroom and obtained a grill lighter that was stored in the medicine cabinet. The grill lighter was just used the night before and the child saw where the lighter was stored.

No one knows for sure if the lighter was in the on artiff position when the child found it in the bathroom The child returned to the bedroom and ignited the bedding material of the bed his mother was sleeping in the child alerted his mother to the fire and the mother immediately removed her child from danger. The mother returned to the bedroom and unsuccessfully tried to entropyish the fire. The mother called the fire department and wanted outside with her son untill their arrivals. The fire department arrivals and contained the fire

## TASK NUMBER 960506CCC 5155

**************************************
2. When the incident occurred, was anyone injured? Yes. If yes, answer the following questions? (If no injury, enter N/A; if more than two individuals were injured, use an additional sheet.)
Injured Person # 1 Injured Person # 2 Who was injured? (Relationship to respondent, ID) Mother of child who started Fire  Age/Sex
Type of Injury (e.g. laceration, burn). Thermal Burns  Body part injured. Arms, back, legs
Type treatment (e.g. Treated and Released hospitalized 5 days) Treated and Released  Any permanent effects (e.g. nerve damage). None
4. Now, if I could, I would like to obtain some information on the incident. What was the date and time of injury?
Date <u>4-24-96</u> Time of day <u>3:25</u> am pm  5. Where did the accident occur? (e.g. backyard, school, kitchen)
The bedroom of a home  City Fairbanks State Ak

## TASK NUMBER 960506665555

<ol> <li>What was (<u>the injured party</u>) doing <u>prior</u> to the (e.g. mowing the grass in the backyard with a ride-on move</li> </ol>	incident wer)?
The nother was sleeping in her bed and	_
three year old child was watching a ver	deo
J	
7. What exactly was ( <u>the injured party</u> ) doing or try at the time of the incident (e.g. trying to turn uphill w	ing to do hile on a
steep grade)? The child obtained a grill lighter	_
the bathroom medicine cabinet and ign	ited the
bed his mother was sleeping in the then notified his mother of the fire.	child
then notified his mother of the fire.	
8. Had (the injured party) performed this action or before. No If yes, include the number of times, known	activity wledge of
operation, experience, etc.)	
If performed before, what was different this time?	
N/A	
•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

						**		•
9. What after the	did (the	<u>e injure</u>	d party,	witnes	ses, e	<u>tc.</u> ) d	lo imme	ediately
after the	incident	(inclu	ding the	pursui	t of m	edical	treat	tment)?
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The A	nother	then	called	911	and	wa	teek	autside
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10. Did have been	( the in	jured pa	incident	ve any	nealt	n prop	Tems t	inat may
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ll. What incident materials	(probe fo	or weath		tions,	type	terrai	n, sto	rage of
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12. Did y a buildin cost	you or yo g, etc.)	ur famil? YES	y incur a	ny eco s, des	nomic . cribe	loss (e includ	e.g. da ing es	amage to stimated
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da	mages	<u>ıs</u>	not a	va (ab	<u> </u>			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

TASK NUMBER 960506 (CC 5155

13.	Could I ask just a couple of more questions about the produ
	What is the approximate age Unknown
	Brand name, if known A.m-n-Flame
	Manufacturer Unknown
	Model (number)
	Size/capacityUnknown
	color/snape Soveral inches long with a handle and
	Other
If	was the product damaged before or during the incident?
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an	d melted almost beyond recognition in the
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	d melted almost beyond recognition in the
	Were any safety devices present, damaged or missing?
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	were any safety devices present, damaged or missing?  No safety devices were damaged or
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15.	were any safety devices present, damaged or missing?  No safety devices were damaged of missing before the incident.  Is the product still available? YES If not, give
15.	were any safety devices present, damaged or missing?  No safety devices were damaged or missing hefore the incident.  Is the product still available? YES If not, give it its of the product.  The fire department has posses
15.	were any safety devices present, damaged or missing?  No safety devices were damaged of missing before the incident.  Is the product still available? YES If not, give

TASK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ 960506CCC 5755

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<u>back</u> Yes	No			
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Note: Any additional comments can be submitted on another page.



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY City of Fairbanks

856 7th Avenue Fairbanks, Alasks, 99701 (907) 459-8500

960506CCC 5155



## TELECOPIER COVER LETTER

-DATE:	5 - 21-95
SUBJECT:	House fine
T0:	Branton Cosby
FIRM:	12 gmi fox
TELECOPY NUME	BER:
FROM:	David Rockney
We are transm	nitting 7 pages(s)(including cover letter)
IF YOU DO NOT	RECEIVE ALL THE PAGE(S), PLEASE CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
·	907) 459-6500
TELECOPIER OP	
•	
	MESSAGE

			INCIDENT	REPOR	т			ANFIRS	1
FILL IN THIS REPORT IN YOUR OWN WORD			FBKS		ME DEPARTMENT			1 3 DELETE 2 3 CHANGE	
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960506 CC 5155

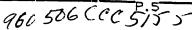
# STATE OF ALASKA CIVILIAN CASUALTY REPORT

	FILL IN THIS REPORT IN YOUR OWN WORDS	_FBK5	PIRE DEPARTMENT	
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### FAIRBANKS FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Individual Run Report

Date 4/2	ulac	Wind: F@	Weather	r: Temp: ,	<b>29</b>	Ru	n Report No. F9 6	0456
-142	418	Wind:		Temp: .	_21			
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·		Time On Location	Time In			•	· .	
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## Fairbanks D.P.S. — Fire Division

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL MOHRMANN

FROM:

B.C. ROCKNEY ON MAN

SUBJECT: F

FIRE INVESTIGATION FIRE #960456

DATE:

4-25-1996

At 1545 on April 24, 1996 D.C. Cummings requested that I investigate a fire that was in progress at 816 29th Ave. I completed the investigation and am submitting this report for the departments record.

#### Description:

The building in question is a duplex located at 816 29th Ave. It is a rectangular building with a daylight basement. There is an apartment upstairs and one downstairs. The building is approximately 30' by 60'. The fire was reported by the occupant, Lavelle McKaskill, who called it in at 1525 hours. At the time of the fire the temperature was 39 degrees above 0 with a wind out of the east at 10 mph. The fire occurred in and was contained to the upstairs bedroom.

#### Observations:

I arrived on the scene at 1602 in the investigation van. The fire was out and all the fire crews had left the scene except BC Lucason and DC Cummings. The first thing I did was talk to BC Lucason about his observations. He said that when he arrived there was light smoke coming from the west end of the house thru a broken window but no flames visible. The window in question turned out to be one of the bedroom windows where the fire was located. He had his crew mount an interior attack and extinguish the fire. The initial crew reported that there was very little fire present, it was just smoldering. The occupant and a child were in a car next to the building when the fire crew arrived. The occupant, Lavelle McKaskill was burned and was transported to FMH by our ambulance crew. A passerby, Weedon Graham had gone into the building before the fire crews arrived to make sure the doors were closed.

DC Cummings came over to me and said that a small child was in

the building at the time of the fire and had made a statement to him about some matches. Warren tried to get the child to be more specific but people started to show up around the child and he wouldn't say any more. I talked to the child but he wouldn't say anything about the fire to me. The child had some small areas of scorched hair on top right side of his head. I took a picture of his head.

After talking to BC Lucason and DC Cummings I started my investigation of the building. The first thing I did was take pictures of the fire scene. After I finished taking pictures, F.F Foster arrived at the scene to assist me in my investigation. I directed him to make rough sketches of the building and the room of origin.

Next I visually examined the building for fire damage. My observations are as follows:

The entire east end of the building including two bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and living room had only light smoke damage evident by a light darkened film on the ceiling and walls. bedroom at the west end of the building had the only fire damage. When entering the bedroom I observed a bed on the south wall that was heavily damaged by the fire, especially the west side of it. The room was heavily smoked and heat damaged. All the plastic items in the room had some distortion to them, indicating a fairly hot atmosphere. There was heavy charring to the dresser and a shelving unit next to the west side of the bed. The mattress was completely burned away on the west side for about a foot towards the center. The remaining mattress was heavily The bedspread was in two pieces. Part of it was on scorched. the bed, that part was mostly burned. Another part of it was lying on the floor next to the bed and was heavily burned. was a robe and some clothes lying under the bedspread that had a few holes burned in them. The carpet next to the bed where the heaviest burn area occurred was melted to the backing. in this heavy burn area was a melted object that was later identified as a lighter. I removed the lighter and have it tagged for evidence. There was a classic V pattern radiating up and away from the bed and floor where the heaviest fire damage The attached bathroom had heavy smoke damage but no fire damage.

#### Interviews:

Lavelle McKaskill

574-54-0818
451-0816
816 29th Ave
I interviewed Lavelle McKaskill, the occupant, at FMH after I investigated the fire. She gave me the following account of the incident. She was asleep in her bed when she was awakened by her

3 year old son Dominique. Dominique was standing on the east side of the bed next to the closet when he woke her up. He said "look mom" and pointed at the end of the bed. Lavelle said she saw smoke and fire at the foot of her bed on the bedspread. She threw the covers off her, grabbed her son and ran him into the living room. She then returned to the bedroom and tried to smother the fire with the bedspread. She burned herself and dropped the bedspread and went back into the living room, grabbed her son and the portable phone and got into her car. She called the fire department from her car. She said she had been napping for about 30 minutes and that her son had been watching a video.

## Graham Weedon 353-1933

I interviewed Graham Weedon who was a bystander at the fire. He said he had been driving down the mitchell expressway when he saw smoke coming from the end of the house. He got off the expressway and went to the fire. When he got there the child was in the car and Lavelle was outside the building, visible upset but not obviously injured. Lavelle told him the fire was on the bed. He went inside the building to make sure the bedroom door was closed. It was. He came outside and went around to the bedroom windows to make sure they were closed. They were. By then the fire trucks arrived.

Kelvin Wright 225-21-8010 451-0816 816 29th Ave

I interviewed Kelvin Wright, Lavelle's fiance. He was not at the fire but I had found an object that and he was able to identify for me. The object was located next to the bed and had been badly distorted from the fire. Kelvin identified it as a lighter which they kept in the bathroom. He had used the lighter the night before to light the barbecue grill and had put it back in the bathroom. After the interview I returned to the fire and found that the lighter was not where he said it should be. The bathroom in question is attached to the bedroom the fire occurred in.

#### Attachments:

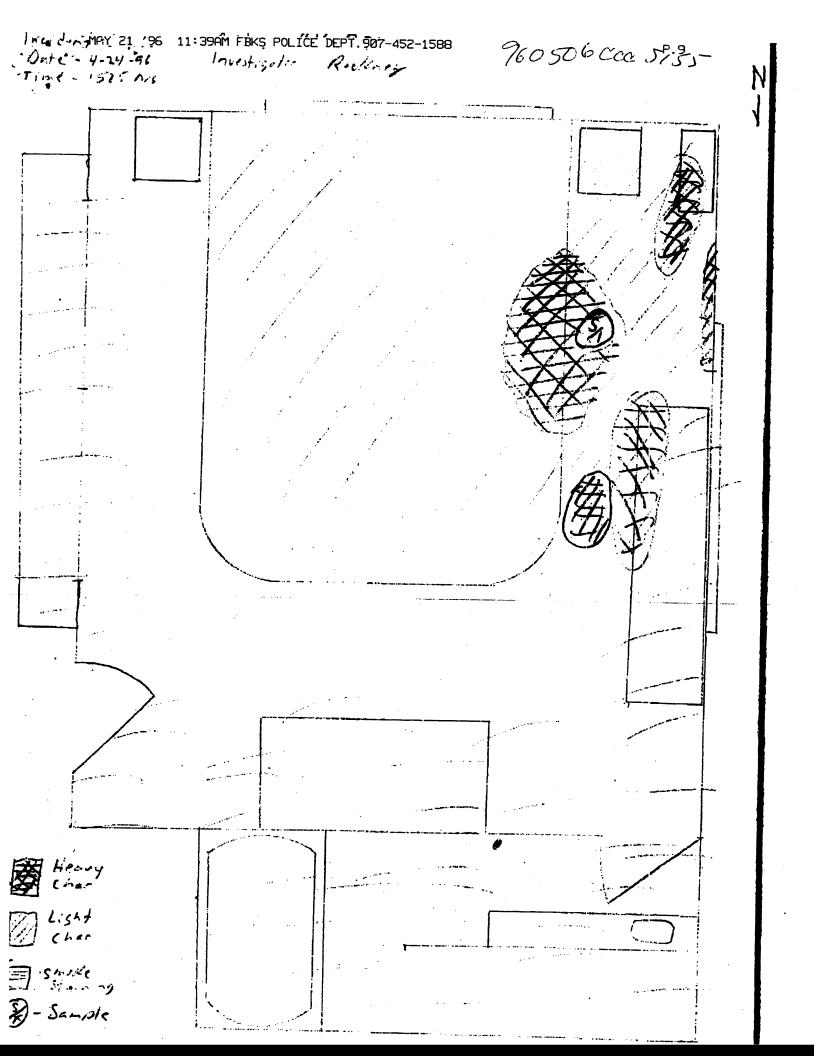
I have included a copy of the run reports written by BC Lucason, a drawing of the room of origin and the lighter. Pictures of the fire were taken and will be given to you when they are developed.

#### Conclusion:

The fire started at the west edge of the bed about midway along the mattress low on the bed, most likely next to the floor. This was evident by the total destruction of that part of the bed, the heavily damaged carpet in that area and the V pattern.

960 506 CCC 5155

There was no source of electricity near the origin of the fire or any other source of ignition other than the melted lighter. It is my opinion that Dominique started the fire by lighting the bedding with the lighter. He dropped the lighter where he started the fire and most likely burned his hair at that time. He then woke his mom up.



sent for assignment 4/30

enlined

AP J8193 un akak- AK-Alaska Briefs, 1st Add

04-29 8:04a

Safety Talk From Mom Likely Saved Three-Year-Old From Fire FAIRBANKS (AP) - Firefighters said a safety talk from a smart mother probably triggered a toddler to wake the woman after accidentally setting his bedroom blanket on fire Wednesday.

The child's mother, Lavelle McKaskill, was napping when her -year-old son began playing with a butane barbecue lighter and lat his bedroom blanket on fire.

Battalion Chief Dave Rockney said children commonly hide in closets and under beds, places they think are safe, unless they have been drilled by their parents on safety and exit routes.

McKaskill previously had talked to her son about what to do in case of a fire, Rockney said.

McKaskill received burns on 6 to 10 percent of her body when she used a blanker to try to smother the fire. She was hospitalized and listed in satisfactory condition Thursday.

(PROFILE Window.

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